

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-42. (Cancelled)

43. (Currently Amended) A method of configuring a medical system for initial operation, comprising the steps of:

storing a data set descriptive of the medical system in a first communication circuit of a first IMD of the medical system;

transferring the data set from the communication circuit of the first IMD of the medical system to a location outside of the first IMD; and

configuring a second IMD of the medical system operatively associated with the first IMD of the medical system based on the data set for cooperative interaction with the first IMD to provide the initial operation.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 43, further comprising receiving the data set via a second communications circuit in the second IMD.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, further comprising connecting the first IMD to a second IMD.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 43, wherein the first IMD includes at least one optional component, and wherein configuring the second IMD includes recognizing the presence of the at least one optional component.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 43, wherein configuring the second IMD includes optimizing operation with circuits included within the first IMD.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 43, wherein configuring the second IMD includes disabling one or more functions of the second IMD.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 44, further comprising powering the first communications circuit via a signal from the second communications circuit.
50. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 43, further comprising configuring a third IMD of the medical system based upon the and wherein the ~~data set includes~~ operating parameters of the second IMD of the medical system.
51. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 43, wherein the data set includes operating parameters of the first IMD.
52. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 43, wherein the location outside the first IMD is in a programmer.